



*Office of Attorney General  
600 E. Boulevard Ave Dept 125  
Bismarck ND 58505-0400  
(701) 328-1574*

[www.ndlottery.org](http://www.ndlottery.org)

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### LOTTERY TICKETS SELLING FAST

BISMARCK – North Dakotans like the Lottery, and the proof is in the sales! The North Dakota Lottery today announced ticket sales have already reached \$17.6 million – more than the amount projected for the entire biennium.

“Ticket sales started out strong and have never slowed down,” said Chuck Keller, director of the North Dakota Lottery. “If sales continue at the current rate, we could pass \$23 million or more by the end of June,” he continued.

In fact, the Lottery is proving so popular that ticket sales projections have been revised twice already to adjust for record breaking sales. “We underestimated how popular the Lottery would be; sometimes it’s great to be wrong!” said Keller. “As about 27¢ of every \$1 ticket goes into the state’s general fund, North Dakota citizens are the ultimate winners,” he continued.

The Lottery now expects to transfer more than \$6.2 million into the general fund this biennium, more than four times the amount initially estimated. The 2003-05 biennium ends on June 30, 2005.

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Media Contact: Eileen Walsh (701) 328-1574